

Distractions During Driving

# Demonstrate How Distraction Can Add to Reaction Time

Supplies: 10 Yard sticks (one for every 3 students); masking tape.

Instructions:

Divide the class into groups of three, assign them the task of being: a Tester, a Reactor, and Evaluator

For each group, place a piece of masking tape on the wall 5 feet from the floor

* Testers are to hold their yardsticks parallel to the wall with the yardstick even with the masking tape.
* Reactors place one hand 12 inches to the left or right of the yardstick.
* Testers release the yardstick, Reactor attempts to stop the yardstick from falling.
* Evaluator measures the distance the yardstick fell before the Reactor was able to stop it.
* Repeat 4 times for an average, then change roles.

EXTRA MILE - Demonstration for the class.

* Use 2 yardsticks, one on either side of the hand, repeat the above.
* Don’t tell the Reactor which yardstick will drop.
* Note the change in reaction time.
* Add more distractions to simulate how much drivers are distracted.

# Curbing Road Rage

Supplies: Paper and pencil.

Instructions:

* Divide the class into groups of five
* Each group develops a list of 10 driving errors that annoy or irritate other drivers
* Discuss why these actions are annoying or irritating
* Discuss and list 10 ways that a driver can be courteous and deal with these annoyances positively